

That most Renowned Christian Worthy
HISTORIE
OF
ARTHUR
King of the *Britaines*.



THE MOST FAVORABLE
LIST OF

THE MOST FAVORABLE

ARTISTS

OF THE





Orthy Countrymen or women, by what name, age,
title or quality soever you are distinguished, I
present you here with a piece of that huge volume
of antiquity; where with our ancestors were (for the most
part contentedly) furnished. Love to the party oftentimes
causeth partiality in publishing of praise-worthy deeds;
this was the notion that the Zelots (of that age so far super-
abounded in their historical relations of this (indeed) match-
less mirror of Monarcks, and example of heroical Actors;
insomuch, that proposing improbabilities they have (in some
sort) drowned realities: to be brief (where brevity is aim-
ed at) Geofry of Monmouth (and other Clarks of that
time) have so fabulously written of King Arthur (and his
Knights of the Round Table) that divers by these Hyper-
bolical discourses, have been pussed with ambiguity whe-
ther any such story were essential or no, which to doubt were
no less the mo question, whether Wil. (the Son of Robert)
Duke of Normandy was ever King of England. King
Arthur is (and hath been ever since his life and death) ac-
counted for one of the 3. Christian Worthies, whereof not
only our own Countrymen, but also others of forraign Na-
tions have (interchangably) written: This have the French
in as glorious a stile, as they have done of their own Charls
Maine, or Godfrey of Bullaine; therefore to explode one
is to hisse all the rest from the stage of Christianity; which
I being confident you wil not refer to what follows truly col-
lected by a lover of truth,

Elizabeth S. P.
VVith antiquity, M. P.

The Contents of the severall Chapters in this following History.

Chap. 1.

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first Knights of the Order; so in all none under the degree of Paron.

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How King *Arthur* fought against the Picts, Scots, Irish, and Saxons in one batell, and slew *Colgrim* King of the Saxons, *Bladust* his Brother, and *Childrick* a Prince of *Germany*, who came to their aide, and how he forced *Guillemore* King of *Ireland* to become tributary unto him.

Chap. 9.

How King *Arthur* sailed to subdue *Ireland*, which he performed with great honor, converting that People, and all the adjacent Lands to Christianity, and obedience to him and the British Monarchy.

Chap. 10.

How King *Arthur* and his Knights of the Round Table, went into *Palistine* to fight against the Pagan Infidels, where they performed wonderfull feats of Arms, to the honor of Christ and Christendome, converting or confounding all where ever they came, and how in the interim the traitor *Mordred* nephew to King *Arthur*, whom (as Viceroy) he had left to govern the Land in his absence, usurped the Crown; which King *Arthur* hearing of, made hast to come home; and in his march through *France*, encountered and overcame *Luchan* the Roman Consul, and many Princes of great birth and valour.

Chap. 11.

How King *Arthur* returned into *England*. He and *Mordred* were both slain in batell, and how noble King *Arthur* was buried at *Glasenbury* in *Summerset-Shire*.

The History of *Arthur* King of *Britain*.

CHAP. I.

How King *Uter* surnamed *Pendragon* slew in battell *Coisen* the proud Duke of *Cornwall* (that rebelled against him) and took his widow (saie *Igren*) to wife, of whom he begat one renowned King *Arthur*.

The Britains having dravon their necks out of the Roman yoke, which they had borne almost 500. years (from *Julius Caesar* who conquered *Casibelan* King of *Britain*) unto *Gratian* the last Roman governour here, who ended his life (and with him the dominati- on over this Iland) in Anno domini, 376. After this *Vortiger* of the Race *Koyall* of *Britain*, did by murder and usurpation possess the Diadem and jurisdiction over this noble Kingdome; but by his execrable life, and wicked government, growing hateful in the Subjects eyes; he (feeling their justly instigated arming against him) sends over into Germany to a Noble and warlike Nation, there called the Saxons (of *Saxonia*) to intreat their aid against his Natives (whom he called Subjects.) The Saxons under the conduct of their two princely Leaders, *Hengist* and *Horsus*, having got ten an inhabitable entrance into this Land (which pleased them so well) they never left of proceeding their warlike policy, until they became in time sole Masters of the Field; chaling the Britaines (by degrees) into that mountainous County now called *Wales* (then *Cambria* which hapned about the year 590 under *Carotius*) the Britaines deposing usurping *Vortiger*, put *Vortimer* his Son into his stead, who being poisoned by *Vortigers* wife (who was *Hengists* Daughter) *Vortiger* reassumes the dominion, reigns with much vexation 19. years, and then both he and *Rowan* (his Saxon wife) are burnt in their Castle by *Aurelius Ambrose* of the lineage of *Constance*, whom *Vortiger* (to get the Crown) had murdered: To this *Aurelius Ambrose* (after 32. years raigne) succeeded *Uter Pendragon*

his Brother: (All the premises are as so many steps ascendant to our story,) this Uter was the Father of our renowned Christian, worthy King Arthur the great of Great Britain, King and Emperour, (the noble subject of this Kingly and most Heroick History) in the beginning of King Uters reigne, the great Duke of Cornwall named Coisen, prompted by ambition, avarice, and oppulency (three strong cords to draw an evill disposed man to destruction) raised an open Rebellion against his Sovereign; in which a wofull enterprise he was slain, and his Wife Igren (the mirror of Ladies for her beauty and virtue) became as lawfull prize to King Uter; and although the death of Coisen her late Husband might seeme to besome obstrack, yet the justness of his death, the Kings cause and request, overcoming all niceties to the increase of her joy and dignity, by the marriage of the King, she became Queen of Britain: Of this gallant Lady (Queen Igren) our worthy Arthur was begotten and born, of whose matchless achievements, for the honour of God and his Nation, and the terror of his enemies; this following epitomy or abstract of his History, gives a briefe and reall notion; this first Chapter serving as a proeme to what follows in order according to the stile of Chronography or History.

CHAP. 2.

How the learned *Merlin* (who flourished in those daies) had the tuition of Prince *Arthur* committed unto him, and how he tutored him.

I N those daies lived (and flourished) that learned Clark *Merlin* (by some accounted a Magromancer, by all a Prophet) of whose predictions & Prophecies, so much talk is at this day (especially among the Welch) who being in great labour with King Uter (as one by whose counsell he was chiefly governed in all his actions) to him was committed the tuition and education of the young Prince, whose advice gave him his name *Arthur*, for some cause which he propounded. *Merlin* having gotten himselfe to be intrusted with the government of this Child (of whom he Prophecied great and admirable deeds to be done) applied all his best of skill and industry, to continue and augment the good opinion which both the King and his People conceived of his Learning, Wisedome, Gravity, and Fidelity to his Nation and his Sovereign; so that he nurtured the Prince in his minority in rudiments suitable to his

his age and proximity, and as he grew and increased in years, so his Learning, and Vertue grew, and increased in him; insomuch, that in him appeared all that might promise a future greatness and goodness: his mind and Study abode all things earthly, he dedicated to divine documents, and next unto that his discourses were all mysticall, and his deeds answerable (exceeding the compass of his age) briefly what may be possibly expected in a Prince, every way pointed out (or set apart) for God and his Countrey, honour (and service) in our Arthur, was so conspicuous, and visible, that the whole world made him the severall objects of both envy and hope: Thus much concerning his education under Merlin, in the next Chapter we will bring his Father his Sepulcher and him to his Throne.

CHAP. III.

Of the death of King *Uter Pendragon*, and how Prince *Arthur* at the age of 18. years was crowned King of Britaine by common consent.

King *Uter* having royally and lovingly both governed, and nourished the sickly estate of Britaine, for the space of 28. years, in which time he had gotten many fortunate battels against the Saxons; then being a prevailing party here, at last to verifie our now common saying, too much familiarity breeds contempt, growing too much familiar with a Saxon Prince called *Emericus*, he was by him (or his appointment) poisoned at a great feast held in the Town of *Salop*; leaving his noble Son Prince *Arthur* the expectation of England, and the just revenger of his Fathers death, who immediately seconded his erit, with his own entrance upon the stage of majesty; he was at that time but a stripling in age, having past over but 18. Winters, and as many Summers, but in Statute, Strength, Wisdome, and Valour he passed thousands that doubled his days. Such majesty in his eyes, such gravity in his gesture and countenance, such mediocrity and modesty in his behaviour, and composition joyned with subtle wisdome, prudence and temperance in his words, that justice and fortitude in his actions were void of doubt or question, so that his wise and cunning Tutor presenting his Pupill so exquisitely qualified, gained the lasting love of the Common-Wealth, for his so artificially poaking grace and nature, to draw on the Charlot of Britains honour and happiness; The same night that his Father was poisoned, Prince *Arthur* in a dream saw a vision (in this manner) a huge spreading Vine, with great ripe clusters thereof themselves

selves red and ready to be crushed: From the root of this Vine issued
 a venomous Wiper, which Wiper was seconded with a great Snake:
 between the Wiper and the Snake was a cruell Combate, the Snake
 for her advantage wound her selfe about the body of the Vine,
 and from thence parted with her enemy, the Wiper breathing out
 threatnings against the Snake instead of hurting her (with his vene-
 mous breath) poisoned the grapes which a man in sad sable habit, com-
 ming after to tast of died immediately: Soon after all this came in a
 lusty raging Lyon, that with his roaring scared away both the Wiper
 and the Snake, and also awaked Prince Arthur. This dream and
 vision Merlin dissected in these (or the like words) most noble branch of
 British Royalty, whom my prophetick spirit dares in the present tense
 (regarding of the future) call the sole and absolute Monarch of all
 Christendome; this last night thy royall Father hath by late reconciled
 enemies (whom we are forbidden to trust) been invited to a supper, and
 though as yet same hath not sounded the trumpet of his death; neither
 do I know any (thing by the voice of the People) but that he is very well
 and in perfect good health: yet (worthy Prince) my genius (conspi-
 ring with your highness dream and vision) dictates to my thoughts that
 he is by this time (to our great sorrow) dead, being poisoned by Remon
 at the appointment of Querinus, the Saxon Prince; who was lately
 of a fierce foe transformed into the shape of a feined friend. This I tell
 you and this you will find true; these are the Wiper and the Snake
 (for they were at variance before, but agreed for the poisoning of Vicer)
 which have between them poisoned the Vine (intimated by the grapes)
 which your Father signified by the man in a sable habit (a fit emblem of
 death) tasted and dyed thereof; well what (renowned Prince) remain-
 ing now, but that you must be that raging, fierce, revenging, and roaring
 Lyon, who with your powerfull and frightfull voyce of command shall
 make this Snake and this Wiper, this Remon and this Querinus with
 all the rest of that hellish rabble of heathenish Pagans; these miscreant
 Saxons to fly away and hide themselves from your (Lyon like) fury.
 No sooner were these speeches by learned Merlin uttered, but pre-
 sently a Post came in all hast to give information of the business, signifying
 that King Uter Pendragon was poisoned: the Saxons had possessed them-
 selves of the Town of Salop, having most treacherously butchered man,
 woman, and child that were therein; first ravishing both Widows and
 Virgins before their Husbands and Parents faces, and then made a ge-
 nerall massacre of all together: When Prince Arthur heard this sad,
 (and horrible) report (after sundry short ejaculations invoking divine
 assistance)

assistance, > he turning to his Tutor (Merlin) said thus ; learned Sir your words are oracles, and so I shall ever esteeme of the same. during my mortall life, when I sterve from your counsell, I can expect nothing but destruction to my self and my people ; and if Alexander esteemed so much a dead Homers words, what shall I Arthur beem of a learned Merlins boyce, the noblest Barrons, Prelates, & common people of the Kingdome, when they had notice of this Royal Tragedy made hast both to have a King to govern them, and a revenging scourge for their enemies, so with a unanimous consent they chose Prince Arthur for their Sovereign.

CHAP. IV.

Of the great Triumphs, Tilts and Turnaments used in his Court in the beginning of his reign, and the wonderful resort of galliant warriors.

THe barbarous Saxons having performed that unreasonable practise in the poisoning of King Uter (as you heard in the precedent chapter) though they had made sure work for the totall extirpation of the British blood, not thinking this our Arthur to be his successor, thought the hearts of the Britains (in this exigent) were set upon the consideration of his promising vertues, which were the step by which he principally ascended the Throne. For although I do not, many then did question his legitimacy of knowing that the love which King Uter professed to E. I. Igren (for her beauty and vertue) caused the jarre between him and her husband; but thats not pertinent to our story. Arthur is crowned King of Britain, and that the Saxons shall soon know to their cost. At his first initiation into the government, he proclaimed a generall Tournament for all commers, at the City of Recliam (long since buried in ruine and oblivion) near to St Albons) King Arthur was crowned (by the hands of William Bishop of London) to this Triumphant Tilt, and Tournament: it is wonderful to relate what rejoyt there was of gallant warriors from all neyghboz Nations, from Scotland, Ireland, France and Almaine, the most approved knights for valour gave lustre to King Arthurs Court, who for munificent entertainment and large hospitality far surmounted all his predecessors: at this Tournament (which lasted all the Whitson week and four daies after) was much galantry performed, both by our Brittaines and Forraigners, which were tedious to relate in particular. In this brief discourse it shall suffice to nominate some of the principall actors in this martiall scene, how they were mated and who were Victors. First Cadur Duke of Cornwall a most ballant and British knight, encountered Macpar Prince of Lenster (in Ireland) a mighty man in stature and compolure of body so of equall skill and courage with the best knight then living. These two Heroes at

their flesh carrier found fortune so impartall in her friendship that they
 were were both sent one way, their bodies fell to the earth, and their
 spears mounted (with their fame) into the the air. This they did severall
 severall times with the like issue. Cador likewise ran against Godfrey
 Count of Henault, a very good, and experienced knight, to whom Lady
 Fortune had been heretofore extremely prodigall in curtesies, but now to
 shew her mutability, her fame left him, and so did his vitall breath; for
 being a corpulent man of body, with the violent fall from his horse he
 broke his neck and died presently in the place, whose death was so gene-
 rally lamented, that the good knight Duke Cador sorrowfully threw off
 his armour and tilted no more during all the time; blessedly the Earle of
 Ludlow overthrew and wounded the Duke of Mounpelier; the Earle
 of Northay (a gallant Scot) did the like to the Count St Paul, and the
 King of Northwals running against the Duke of Halstein threw both
 him and his horse to the ground, breaking (with the violence of the fall)
 the neck of the horse and the arme of the rider, the Duke of Britain did
 the like with the Count of Ipre; but the most notable combate of all that
 I have either mentioned or (for brevity omitted) hapned upon the last
 day between the Count Palatine of Chester and the Dauphin of Vienna,
 which considering all circumstances deserves expression (though in a
 brief manner) during the Courteous entertainment before the Tournament
 (and in the interim) these two young gallants, both Batchelors, became
 mutually enamoured on the matchless beauty of the Lady Jaquinta sole
 daughter and heire to the Earle of Flintshire, who was a Courteous atten-
 dant on (and piece to) the Queen Iren the Kings Mother, and be-
 ing jealous of each others fortune in the affairs of Cupid; Mars (upon
 this offered occasion interposing himselfe as a moderator to remove the
 difference, so that being interiorly (as well as exteriorly) armed, and both
 gallantly mounted, they entered the Lists with extraordinary engagement,
 and courage (as the event justifies) at their first encounter, both of them
 fell horse and man to the ground sorely bruised, and recovering their legs
 (contrary to their forerunners) fell so it fiercely with their swords, these
 manhood whetted on that fair Ladies persecutions, turned friendly tryall
 (by tournament) to the mortal thirst of revenge, with such eager strokes
 one of them pursued the other, that the princely spectators must needs
 judge death to be the umpire of the controversy; for both being diswa-
 ved by Royall command, and intreated of friends, all was answered
 with desire of prosecution, with such acerbity and acclimony of heart,
 did they strive to defend, and offend, that it was hard to censure whe-
 ther valour or valour had most predominance, the Count Palatine
 judg-

Judging his native right to the Lady more then the Dolphin which was an Alien, and the Dolphin deeming that Princely birth, and corresponding qualities might merit affection in any part of the world. This is the beginning and ground of the quarrel; whereof the end and issue is death to both, as you shall hear presently; the Dolphin hit the Count Palatine such a forcible blow on the helme, making way by Steele (through Steele) it both pierced his skull, and also brought him upon his knees, at which advantage, he ran violently upon him to have crushed him to the earth, but the Count Palatine (active both in body and spirit) ceasles his legs (the Dolphins strength being much inferior to his) and with his kings sword lent him such a lucky, or unluckly stroke between the head and shoulders, that cutting his wind pipe, dothon fell the Dolphin, but as he fell he thrust his sword under the skirt of the Count Palatines armoz, which bisiting his intrals with the point of death: these two noble knights and lovers, though not of each other, eyed both together in hatred, neither of them injoying his wish, but revenge: and so with the end of them I will finish the feast, and turnament, and withall conclude this chapter.

CHAP.V.

Of King *Arthurs* first War with the Saxons, and how he victoriously overcame them in twelve severall set battels, to the subduing of their pride and preventing their progreſs of conquest during his own, and his next successors reign.

THe triumph thus tragically begun and ended, our worthy Arthur, having first solemnized the funeral obsequies of his Royal Father, also the Count Henant, the Dolphin of Viena, and the Count Palatine of Chester, which was on four severall dayes perſormen with all one celebratie, begins to think the redemption of both upon his native Country from Pagan ſlavery, and rebenging of his Royall Fathers horrible murder. And to this intent he with all possible celerity, musters up all the bold Britains of this Kingdome Chelſains and Barrons assembling at London the metropolitan city of the realm, he made an oration unto them to this or the like effect. Noble natives, on whom, next to divine help, my honour, wealth, and lasty depends, now is the time that we must arme our selves with Christian confidence against these misbelieving miscreants, who so long a time have germanized

a id gluffed themselves in ours and our worthy amatores blood, the
 execrable massacre at Salop begun in the poison of our Royall Father,
 being yet in fresh bleeding memory, needs no other incentive, it being
 of it selfe a moerbe forcible enough to conglutinat your hearts, and put
 edge to your valour against these blasphemous of Christ and his Law,
 and captivatores of us, and what should be most dear to us, even our
 consciences: to the heathenish Idolatry and merciless tyranny, much
 needs not. be said to excite, when the cause it selfe is so urgent, and pres-
 sive. We yettue to me, your Sovereign, as I by Gods assistance, whose
 substitute I am, will be faithfull and just, to defend and protect you my
 Christian British Subjects, from the baselage of these infidels; and I
 doubt not but we shall bring these our godly resolutions to a happy and
 a glorious period. This speech was receibed with a generall plauditie,
 the acclamations of the people were so loud, and great, that it is almost
 beyond credit to tell how far they were heard, of arme, arme, arme,
 now is all the cry, and there was no need of pressing of souldiers
 as we use now adaves, for souldiers pressed forward to this War, with-
 out command or pay: So that within a fortnight space and less, there
 appeared in sundry places of the Land above 200000 able fighting men,
 all compleatly armed, all crying for God, King Arthur, the British Liber-
 ty, and Christian Religion: Well, but what do the Saxons all this
 while, are they idle? no, great preparations are made, new forces arm
 vaily at the severall ports and havens of the Land: Some at South-
 hampton, others at Sandwich, and a third at Fomouth: now is Britaine
 become an Acceldama, nothing but blood, ruine and slaughter is to be
 expected; but the best of it, it is King Arthur and his noble Britains are
 alwaies victorious: the Pagan Idolaters fall under the Christian sword;
 insomuch that within 18. months 12. mighty hosts of Saxons are over-
 throwen in 12. severall set battels, fought in sundry places of the King-
 dome; the first and greatest was in Shropshire near Salop upon New-
 Years day A.D. 517 where 46000 Pagan Saxons were sent to the devil
 for a Newyears gift, 3000. chiefe Commanders, and Pyemen, as they
 call them, taken prisoners; this memorable battell in a manner made
 shipwreck of all the Saxon greatness in this Land; yet in March fol-
 lowing by the aide that came from them from beyond the Sea, and their
 scattered forces which they had rallied together they openly opposed K.
 Arthur and his British Army, near to Oundly in Northampton shire,
 where with the slaughter of above 18000 Saxons and 150 prisoners,
 King

King Arthur obtained a glorious victory. To make short, what would be verlong if I should tell you all; in the space of time above mentioned this noble Christian worthy, became conqueror of these bloody, and ambitious Saxon conquerors. 12. severall times; insomuch that they not being able any longer to withstand his never changing Fortune, were at the last (so many as were left alive) enforced quite to abandon the Land, to which they never returned during the raigne of Arthur, and his next successor, which was (his Nephew) Constantine, Son to the late mentioned Cadur the valiant and magnanimous Duke of Cornwall: Thus much for his first war with (and extirpation of) the Saxons, wherein he shewed himselfe to be a true Son to his poisoned Father, and a just Father to his oppressed, distressed, and captived Nation great Britain.

CHAP. VI.

How King Arthur crost the Seas, and subdued Denmark and Norway and Gothland unto him, in which voyage many notable occurrences passed well worth observation.

HAVING thus gloriously triumphed over his enemies at home, our (not tole) Arthur caused a Navy of 400. ships to be presently well rigged and manned, and an Army consisting of 60000. foot, and 20000. horse to be ready to attend his Majesty upon what designe he would be pleased to imploy them; which done, himselfe in his Royall person, his kinsman Cadur Duke of Cornwall, whom he made Captain Generall of the horse, the Earle of Ludlow named Sir Markon, Lieutenant generall under him; the Earle of Leicester, Lincolne, Salop, and Flintshire, all imployed in places of great charge in the Army. Morgan King of Northwales, and Theoder (of whom the moderne name Teuder originally sprung) King of Southwales each of them voluntarily offering unto King Arthur (to whom they did fealty) their aide and assistance in this gallant intended voyage; So that having all things fitting, and nothing wanting (that might promise prosperitie) our famous and renowned Navy, with our bold British Christian Army, put from Dover in the Ides of March, Anno 519. for the Conquest of those three then Pagan Nations, Denmark, Norway, and Gothland, and with such happy gales they were besetled, and waited on by such auspicious fairs, that as they were not long under saile, so upon the shore their wishes were answered with successe accordingly, insomuch that

it was no more then hope and have, wish and win; for our Arthur might alwaies lay with Caesar, *veni, vidi, vinci*. I came, I saw, I overcame; so the divine power was so immediately assistant, with this valiant Christian Champion our worthy British Arthur, that what enterprise soever he took in hand (though never so much difficulty appeared in it) he was certain to come off victor; at his arrivall in Denmark, mighty opposition was made to prevent farther entrance into the Land; but all in vaine, our Noble Brittaines (had been by former experience) taught to account that ground whereon their feet stood, to be their own inheritance, and that they would never part withall alike: this resolution caused King Arthur to conquer where he came, whatevber opposition was made. The King of Denmark whose name was Eschilleus, was at a strong hold of his, called Bull Castle, which King Arthur (having overcome the Danish Army) laid siege to, and in four dayes took it by maine assault: the King to save his life, humbly upon his knees did homage to K. Arthur, for his Kingdom, which he would hold of him as his leige Lord, paying to him (and his heirs, Kings of Britain) an annual tribute of 40000 Ducats: which when Delleivius King of Gothland heard who was coming to assist Eschilleus (feeling the event) he began to retire; but our horsemen so plyed the opportunity, that overtaking the rears of the army; they gave fierce onset to them, holding them in play, till the maine body of the British foot came up, and indeed little ado there was to gaine this victory, which seat had halfe done already, the King was taken (with 12. men in his company near to a wood side) by a party of our horse, who were employed in pursuit of the (disperted) army: who being brought before King Arthur, submitted, resigning himselfe (his Crown and Kingdom) to hold in fee of the British Monarchy, yearly allowing a tributary stipend of 700. franks (of Gold) delivering his own brother Harpus (Prince of Finia) in hostage till security was made for the true payment of it. With this prosperous successe, our worthy Arthur set forward to Norway, the King whereof (Lotho by name, a man of marvellous strength and valour) having had intelligence of all that had passed in Denmark (and thereby conjecturing what would come to pass) gathering all the premission that might be of men and armes to check the careers of this irresistible army; which he indeed had accomplished, but that a power more then humane prevented it: at the first arrivall of the Brittaines (which they permitted as trusting upon their lands strength, which was 300000 horse and foot in a minute all that the Land could make) King Arthur sent a messenger to King Lotho, requiring of him his Kingdom, and people to yeeld obedi-

ence to the Christian Crown of Britaine, as his neighbor Kings had done; which if he refused to do (without effusion of blood) he doubted not to gain by force what he sought to win by favor: the proud Pagan Prince (presuming upon his own, more then common ability of body, and the magnitude of his army, sent back this despicable answer (by way of defiance and challenge) to King Arthur, and his chivalry. Know daring Arthur, that thou and all thy crafty Christians, whom contemptuously thou hast brought against the decree of the gods, into this Northern part of Europe, shall be the laughing stock of Lotho and his matchless Norwegians, and although fortune have suited thee to triumph over the cowardise of Eschilius and Dollavius wits; assure thy selfe all this will conduce to the greater glory of me, who am (by the gods) designed to be the Conqueror of thee, who hath conquered so many of their devout supplicaters, thou art come upon my land without my leave, but shalt never depart thence with thy life; but because I intend to win a particular praise in thy ruine (and the chiefe men with thee) I challenge thy selfe to meet my self, in personal combat, and if thou, or they think well of it, 10. of the most approved Knights in thy army, against 10. of mine, this if accepted by thee and thine, shall be performed by me and mine, to morrow morning by 9. of the clock, upon Armond plain, two leagues from either Army; bring you courage along with you, and let your horses bring you to the place of destruction; at the time & place appointed; if you faile our expectation, we will not faile to be with you (to the ruine of your hoste) in the afternoon of the same day, in the interim, take leave to pause upon the words of thy mortall enemy Lotho, Rex Norvegia. This Letter coming into King Arthurs view, it is unexpressible with what joy he read it, and calling his Princes, Barons, and illustre Knights before him, unto them he communicated the premises; when presently a vertuous emulation (and strife arose among them) who should be the combators in this glorious hazard; to be briefe, the business could no other wise be decided then by casting lots (so hungry were their Christian appetites after this honourable breakfast) the lots fell upon Duke Cadur of Cornwall, Morgan and Theodore King of North & South Wales, the Earle of Leicester, Lincoln, Flint, Ludloe, and Salop, the Barron of Aberqueny, and the Barron of Bark; these 10. gallant Knights to the spirituall endy of many others) rode along with King Arthur (at the time to the place appointed) where they met there resolute opponents, so punctual to promise, that I may well say they met indeed, neither party staying for the other, but just coming to the place together, as though the 22. horses had been prised to catch others secretly

it was no more then hope and haue, with and win; for our Arthur might al waies say with Caesar, *veni, vidi, vinci*, I came, I saw, I overcame; so the diuine power was so immediately assistant, with this valiant Christian Champion our worthy British Arthur, that what enterprise soeuer he took in hand (though neuer so much difficulty appeared in it) he was certain to come off victor; at his arrivall in Denmark, mighty opposition was made to prevent farther entrance into the Land; but all in vaine, our Noble Brittaines (had been by former experience) taught to account that ground whereon their feet stood, to be their own inheritance, and that they would never part withall aliue: this resolution caused King Arthur to conquer where he came, whatever opposition was made. The King of Denmark whose name was Elchilleus, was at a strong hold of his, called Bull Castle, which King Arthur (having overcome the Danish Army) laid siege to, and in four dayes took it by maine assault: the King to save his life, humbly upon his knees did homage to K. Arthur, for his Kingdom, which he would hold of him as his leige Lord, paying to him (and his heirs, Kings of Britain) an annual tribute of 40000 Ducats: which when Dolleivins King of Gotland heard who was coming to assist Elchilleus (feeling the event) he began to retire; but our horsemen so plyed the opportunity, that overtaking the reare of the army; they gave fierce onset to them, holding them in play, till the maine body of the British foot came up, and indeed little ado their was to gaine this victory, which fear had halfe done already, the King was taken (with 12. men in his company near to a wood side) by a party of our horse, who were imployed in pursuit of the (disperted) army: who being brought before King Arthur, submitted, resigning himselfe (his Crown and Kingdome) to hold in fee of the British Monarchy, yearly allowing a tributary stipend of 700. franks (of Gold) delivering his own brother Harpus (Prince of Finia) in hostage till security was made for the true payment of it. With this prosperous successe, our worthy Arthur set forward to Norway, the King whereof (Lotho by name, a man of marvelous strength and valour) having had intelligence of all that had passed in Denmark (and thereby conjecturing what would come to pass) gathering all the premission that might be of men and armes to check the careere of this irresistible army; which he indeed had accomplished, but that a power more then humane prevented it: at the first arrivall of the Brittaines (which they permitted as trusting upon their lands strength, which was 300000 horse and foot in a minute all that the Land could make) King Arthur sent a messenger to King Lotho, requiting of him his Kingdome, and people to yeeld obedi-

ence to the Christian Crown of Britain, as his neighbor Kings had done: which if he refused to do (without effusion of blood) he doubted not to gain by force what he sought to win by favor: the proud Pagan Prince (presuming upon his own, more then common ability of body, and the magnitude of his army, sent back this despicable answer (by way of defiance and challenge) to King Arthur, and his chivalry. Knew daring Arthur, that thou and all thy crafty Christians, whom contemptuously thou hast brought against the decree of the gods, into this Northern part of Europe, shall be the laughing stock of Lotho and his matchless Nozbeigians, and although fortune have smited thee to triumph over the cowardise of Eschilius and Dollavius wits; assure thy selfe all this will conduce to the greater glory of me, who am (by the gods) designed to be the Conqueror of thee, who hath conquered so many of their devout supplicaters, thou art come upon my land without my leave, but shalt never depart thence with thy life; but because I intend to win a particular praise in thy ruine (and the chiefe men with thee) I challenge thy selfe to meet my self, in personal combat, and if then they think well of it, 10. of the most approved Knights in thy army, against 10. of mine, this if accepted by thee and thine, shall be performed by me and mine, to morrow morning by 9. of the clock, upon Armond plain, two leagues from either Army: bring you courage along with you, and let your horses bring you to the place of destruction: at the time & place appointed; if you faile our expectation, we will not faile to be with you (to the ruine of your hoste) in the afternoon of the same day, in the interim, take leave to pause upon the words of thy mostall enemy Lotho, Rex Norvegia. This Letter coming into King Arthurs view, it is unexpressible with what joy he read it, and calling his Princes, Barons, and illustre Knights befoze him, unto them he communicated the premises; when presently a vertuous emulation (and strife arose among them) who should be the combators in this glorious band; so he hysse, the business could no other wise be decided then by casting lots (so hungry were their Christian appetites after this honourable breakfast) the lots fell upon Duke Cadur of Cornwall, Morgan and Theodore King of North & South Wales, the Earle of Leicester, Lincoln, Flint, Ludloe, and Salop, the Barron of Aberqueny, and the Barron of Bark; these 10. gallant Knights to the spirituall envy of many others, rode along with King Arthur (at the time to the place appointed) where they met there resolute opponents, so punctual to promise, that I may well say they met indeed, neither party staying for the other, but fast coming to the place together, as though the 22. horses had been pryde to catch others se-

creters

crets, or known their others intentions : Thus being mutually met after a few courte complements (such as the present occasion dictated) they fell to the business which they came about, with such impartial hardines, that you might well guess that the one party sought to win a Kingdome, and the other sought to save one : it would be both troublesome and tedious to recite the particulars of this happy bickering, therefore I will content my selfe with the rehearfall of the two Kings encounter combat, & success, onely generally telling how the rest behaved themselves, and to whom the victory hapned : King Arthur charged his enemy so furiously at their first encounter, that Lotho being a man of admirable strength, & not able to unhorse him, he himselfe was so near dismounting, that he recoyled into the crouper of his Saddle, at which his very eyes revealed the anger of his heart, so that recovering his seat, and at a second pass gave both their Lances (though marvelous strong) flew into the ayre, but with the vehemency of the stroke King Lothos left shoulder joint was dislocated, which he chafing (like a boze) sought his best advantage by sudden dismounting, but King Arthur (the activist man alive was on ground with sword in hand before him, and at the first very struck him on the head so vigorously, that he cleft his helme and head to the eyes ; so down fell Lotho like a mighty Wale, yeelding his body and Kingdome to the mercy of King Arthur, how he would bury the one, and dispose of the other ; in the interim our hardy Britishe Knights had slain 6. of their 10. Antagonists, and mortally wounded the other four, either of them having received any notable hurt : the Earle of Flint had his horse slain under him, the like had the King of Northwales, Duke Cador was cut in the arme, the Earle of Leicester in the leg, and the Earle of Salop in the shoulder, no other hurt was done unto the Britishe Party, the dejected Norwegians hearing these tydings (so full of horror to them) threw down their weapons and fled, whom our Britains overtaking, King Arthur caused a proclamation to be made, that whosoever would forsake the worship of their false gods, and adore the true God Jesus Christ, and be baptized into the Christian Faith, should be received to mercy, the obstinate to expect none : upon this many thousands promised, and in four dayes performed the same, by baptism, and confession of the Christian Faith ; among the rest, the Duke of Erikine next heire to the Crown of Norway, was baptized, and Crowned both in one day (by the Bishop of Menevia (since called Saint Davids) who was alwayes attendant on King Arthur, who receiving homage of this new Christian King (the first of that name and condition, for so he was named at his

his invitation to his Kingdome and Christiani^y) for the Kingdome of Norway, our illustrious King Arthur (with his Royall British army, laden with honour and victo^y) left these coasts, and set sayle for Brittain, where soon arriving, they were received with incredible gladness, and triumph, as such a prosperous voyage deserves.

CHAP. VII.

How King *Arthur* instituted the order of the Round Table, and graced it with 150. Knights, with the reason of its institution to maintain concord.

King Arthur having filled all eares with the fame of his incomparable victo^{ries}, and being at home on all sides quiet, by none molested, by all loved or feared, to honour those high born Princes, Nobles, and Barrons, who had done God and him such notable service, he bethought him how he might in some manner gaerdonize their (incomparable) worth, with some honourable Order of Knights, had (a thing customary in many renowned conquerors) and because he took notice that being most of them of equivoilent condition, both in birth, and haughtiness of spirit, to avoid emulation, env^y, and heart burnings, incident to such a Company about priority or precedence of place at feasts, to prevent any such occasion of distraction (and to continue concord, and mutuall correspondence among that noble fellowship,) he instituted at the City of Winchester where he then was residing) the Order of the Round Table, causing a certaine number of Round Tables to be made, at which these illustrious Heroes dined, and supped, the salt and the bread alwaies set in the middle, there was neither upper end nor lower end (of the Table) but all equall; into this noble Order was received 150. men of high blood equality which (of what high birth soever) none were under the degree of Barron) were called Knights of the Round Table, and because I find many of their names to be at this day great surnames in the Monarchy of great Brittain, I think it convenient (to the honour of the bearers, notwithstanding my promised brevity) to set down the names of the first Knights of the Round Table in Alphabeticall order as I found them long since in an old Charcoalman manuscript.



1. Sir Acolon.
 2. Sir Alot.
 3. sir Agar.
 4. sir Aucruise.
 5. sir Ambros.
 6. sir A'eot.
 7. sir Ascue.
 8. sir Albone.
 9. sir Aubaurne.
 10. sir Ash.
 11. sir Am'ce.
 12. sir Beumans.
 13. sir Belamore.
 14. sir Bertunt.
 15. sir Belvoire.
 16. sir Bois.
 17. sir Beleobus.
 18. sir Basslet.
 19. sir Bygot.
 20. sir Brian.

21. sir Bevis.
 22. sir Best.
 23. sir Burlacie.
 24. sir Baude.
 25. sir Betris.
 26. sir Baulks.
 27. sir Cador.
 28. sir Christian.
 29. sir Carlton.
 30. sir Cleere.
 31. sir Ciare.
 32. sir Cade.
 33. sir Cosels.
 34. sir Callin.
 35. sir Clay.
 36. sir Corts.
 37. sir Castor.
 38. sir Danbeny.
 39. sir Delamore.
 40. sir Dauce.

41. sir Dallin.
 42. sir Doughty.
 43. sir Daynty.
 44. sir Dunsmore.
 45. sir Darcy.
 46. sir Dalby.
 47. sir Dancombe.
 48. sir Dotrill.
 49. sir Doguery.
 50. sir Dorigner.
 51. sir Evap.
 52. sir Ector.
 53. sir Eincrie.
 54. sir E. smeece.
 55. sir Eatone.
 56. sir Eger.
 57. sir Edwards.
 58. sir Erskeine.
 59. sir Euball.
 60. sir Eupheos.

61 fir Ermin	91 fir Hope	121 fir Maurice
62 fir Foll	92 fir Hill	122 fir Martin
63 fir Frith	93 fir Hunt	123 fir Motton
64 fir Fly	94 fir Hugin	124 fir Miles
65 fir Forfene	95 fir Harcourt	125 fir Meridith
66 fir Feilde	96 fir Harold	126 fir Mariot
67 fir Foulke	97 fir Hamond	127 fir Newton
68 fir Fly	98 fir Hoby	128 fir Norton
69 fir Flesk	99 fir Hollis	129 fir Norman
70 fir Forbs	100 fir Jermin	130 fir Naylor.
71 fir Fleere	101 fir Ingram	131 fir Nudigate
72 fir Frisk	102 fir Iſlip	132 fir Napper
73 fir Font	103 fir Ippe	133 fir Oliver
74 fir Fode	104 fir Jones	134 fir Ostolſt one
75 fir Freake	105 fir Joyce	135 fir Ouldroire
76 fir Fax	106 fir Ive	136 fir Ostourne
77 fir Gbiller	107 fir Killian	137 fir Percivall
78 fir Gavin	108 fir Kirk	138 fir Pelleas
79 fir Caheris	109 fir Kercacy	139 fir Pallamaide
80 fir Gareth	110 fir Knevet	140 fir Peregrin
81 fir Gravet	111 fir Kilegrew	141 fir Playſter
82 fir Geuls	112 fir Lancelot	142 fir Querin
83 fir Gorrim	113 fir Lanjon	143 fir Reiner
84 fir Gilden	114 fir Lyonell	144 fir Roderik
85 fir Giles	115 fir Lewes	145 fir Randolph
86 fir Goulde	116 fir Loftus	146 fir Sugris
87 fir Gaull	117 fir Laude	147 fir Tristram
88 fir Gueſt	118 fir Leuellen	148 fir Tramore
89 fir Hard	119 fir Lovelace	149 fir Tracy
90 fir Hay	120 fir Leukior	150 fir Valentine

These were the Names of those Princes
and Noble Men.

The Life and death of

First brother of this honourable fellowship (and fraternity) called Knights of the Round Table, between whom there was such an unanimous and mutual correspondency, that all the whole world admired the admirable feats of chivalry by them performed; for with these 150. scarce any 300. Knights in Europe durst adventure to Combat: of their noble acts you shall hear further in the progress of our history to the end.

CHAP.VIII.

How King *Arthur* and his Knights of the Round Table, fought against the Pits, Scots, Irish, and Saxons in one battell; and how he slew with his own hands, *Colgrim* King of the Saxons, *Balduff* his brother, and *Childrick* a Prince of Germany, and how he forced *Guillamore* King of Ireland to become tributary unto him.

The Barons envying King *Arthur*'s prosperity, and bering at the late success in Britaine, have now sabborned the Pits, Scots, Irish, and the Defens of Germany, to aide them in revenging themselves upon K. *Arthur*; so they came hither with an army composed of all these aforesaid mentioned Nations, consisting of 200000 horse and foot under the conduct of *Colgrim* their King, *Balduff* his brother, *Guillamore* King of Ireland, and *Childrick*: (Prince *Coras* now Landsgrave) Hesen meaning to share the Kingdome of Britain, among them, they landed suddenly in the 12. 12th of England, and burnt and spoiled before them for the space of 18. miles without any opposition, but so soon as ever our Lyon like *Arthur*, & his Knights heard of it, they came with a puissant force to withstand them, and near *Colchester* obtained a glorious victory slew 28000. in the field of the common sort, and took 300 of the chief Commanders prisoners; but which most adoznes the victory, King *Arthur* himselfe in person slew head to head *Colgrim* the Saxons King, with *Balduff* his brother, and *Childrick* of Hesen, but *Guillamore* King of Ireland trusting to his footmanship (for his horse was slaine under him) ran towards the Sea side, thinking to escape by shipping, but *Sir Cador* overtaking him, brought him prisoner to the King, who forced him for the safeguard of his life, to resigne his Kingdome unto his majesty, and to that effect he did homage, yeelding to pay unto King *Arthur* (and his heires) a yearly puztion of nine thousand pounds: Thus was our noble *Arthur* every way magnified, his foes every where confounded; and the monarchy of Britain under his government be-

became the most most renowned throughout all the whole world; the Saxons never daring to come towards it, during his reign nor his next successors (Conline) as I told you heretofore.

CHAP. IX.

How King *Arthur* (and his Knights) sayled to subdue Ireland, which he performed with great honour, converting that, and the adjacent Lands, to Christianity, and obedience to him and the British Monarchy.

Great Spirits cannot be idle, the thoughts once fixed on honourable achievements, and cherished with happy success, are ever busied in finding out this jewel, where ever it lie hid in the world: This is evident in our Christian *Worthy*, and his gallant Knights, who loathing to be backward in putting forwards Gods glory in the enlargement of Christendom: and hearing that Ireland, and other people thereabout live in heathenish Idolatry, and blind worship, not having the light of the Gospel as yet revealed to them; he raised an army to reduce them to the Law of Christ (and obedience to him,) with happy success this voyage goeth on, King *Arthur* and his Royal army, consisting of no more but 30000, depending on divine Auxiliaries, adventure upon this great enterprise, and arrive happy in Ireland, where they find great opposition, yet overcome with small difficulty: The people by Nature rude and savage, as hardy as their Country is cold; yet these cold comforts not the peoples frozen conscience, dismay not our undaunted Britains, whose zealous fire is of force both to warme themselves, and to thaw their enemies hearts: a furious encounter they found at their entrance, for the barbarous Islanders were upon a sudden ranged into a body of above forty thousand, their King *Malvasius* (a renowned and hardy Knight, famous for many victories against the Laplanders and Finians) came himselfe in person before his soldiers boldly demanding a fight of, and speech with King *Arthur*, which (to his happy unhappiness) he soon attained.

CHAP. X.

How King *Arthur* (and his Knights of the Round Table) sayled into Palestine to fight against the Pagan Infidels, where they performed
won.

wonderfull feats of chivalry to the honour of Christ and Christianity;
converting, or confounding al where ever they came.

Long had not King Arthur and his (honour thirsty) Knights slept at home, but fresh adventure pricks them forward to travel; Europe (by their meanes) is quietted (and the fold of Christ much enlarged) but in Asia the Pagan infidels rage: Palestine (with her Christians) groanes under this heavey yoke: therefore our worthy Arthur and his gallant warriors will not rest in peace, while tydings of this horrible war and oppression is spread through the land of Christendome: briefly, with the very same army, which he brought out of the cold Countries, he marched upon this hot (yet honourable) enterprise, of all other the most laudable for a Christian Army to engage himselfe in; let us now imagine we see the Christian Banner displayed between Jerusalem and Jericho, upon the plain of Naber, where an innumerable host of Saracens are encamped against the Xerxian multitude (with great confidence) goes our Christian Army, not doubting of (that which they near failed to get) victory, which by divine providence they accomplished; it were incredible to shew what extraordinary vertue King Arthur, and his Knights performed in that service; for three dayes space the battell continued, and then our Christian Army had the happiness to behold the destruction and total rout of the whole Pagan host.

CHAP. XI

How King Arthur returned into England. He and Mordred were both slain in battell, and how noble King Arthur was buried at Glancenbury in Summerset-shire.

Now both prosperous wind and weather brought our worthy Arthur (and his bold belonists) to the British Coasts; he seeks landing at Dover, but finds it fortified, to impeach his arrivall: the traytor Mordred had so possessed the people with his spirit of treason, and rebellion, that they in stead of magnificent shews, and triumphes to welcome him (as his vertue required, and their duty had heretofore done) defied him to his face (O ingratefull Castles) and insolently denies his entrance into his owne inheritance (a very unfortunacion for the unparalleled honour) wherewith King Arthur and his Knights had endowed and adorned the British Monarchie) upon the British shore he can set no footing

ting, but by force, which (if there be no remedy) he knows how to do (being so long
(and so well) best in that business) and so by force both enter, and is by a huge
army of (bawdily) Britains opposed, a cruell fight is maintained for a long time.
In fine the King is victor, the usurper and his wicked company (for so many as es-
caped alive) fly and were pursued by the King, and their own evil consciences,
yet being haroned with malice and as it were steeld with baseness, the miscreants
(in that nature worse then the Pagan Idolaters which his all conquering courage
had so often triumphed over) have the face again to affront that majesty, the splen-
der wherof had so dazzled the eyes of the world (which looking on his glorious
conquest) that none beheld his countenance (in a warlike construction) without
fear and trembling, nor durst they have done it had they not been (too bold in such
an action) Britains that dare do any thing. Sir Cadour that matchless man of
men) was slaine fighting against a whole Regiment. Sir Gawin, a man of in-
vincible valour, coming to his rescue, also with him joyned in fellowship of death,
the renowned, and courageous young King of Scotland Arguissell by name, coming
to the aide of King Arthur, dyed gallantly fighting in his quarrell. Sir Killian de
Londre embroiled with a troupe of horse after the death of 12. men, which with his
own hand he slew, was himselfe hit with a dart throwne from a common Irish or
Picish hand laid dead on the earth. Sir Martin de Forell in rescuing King Arthur
encompassed with a troupe of horse (that sought to have taken him) was shot into the
heart with an arrow, and dyed presently: after this Sir Cadour, Sir Gawin, Sir
Killian, and Sir Martin, after so many unequalled victories abroad, came to yield
their loyall hearts, by the hands of perfidious Rebels, their own natidies, into the
power of death in their native Country: also that valiant Scot before mentioned
King Arguissell, though not a Knight of the Round Table, yet an undaunted Knight
and trusty friend to King Arthur: who like an enraged Lyon makes slaughter on
every side with his sword beyond the expectation of humane force: insomuch that
the enemy beginning to dispaire of victory, a Picish soldier (incited by Mordred)
cries out aloud in the British Language, fly you Britains, what do you fight for;
Arthur your King (on whom you depend) and all his Knights of the Round Ta-
ble are dead: This made King Arthur's soldiers begin to start, which he hearing
made halt to the most eminent place that he could find, where being conspicuous (and
visible to them all, he spoke these courageous words: fight on (fellows in arms)
I am (I praise heaven for it) neither dead nor wounded, but in perfect health (and
strength) and that these ballanous rebels and traytors (who speak what they wish)
shall soon find these words kindle fresh fire of valour in the breasts of all true Bri-
taines, so as the battell did (as it were) begin anew: insomuch that the perfidi-
ous Mordred without hope, fled with his rebellious remnant towards the Towne
of Glassebury in Somerset shire, whither King Arthur and his Knights, with the
rest of his gallantry, speedily pursued them, and there began afresh to fight. Where
King Arthur, who in former fights had received ten severall wounds in his head, but
none mortall till now, that the speere of a (broken) Lance hapned to pierce his
skull, and that probed his death wound: but before he dyed, when he felt
the very agony of death approaching in his hot incensed blood, he did wonderfull
execution upon his enemies, and still continued fighting (as though he had felt
no hurt) till a messenger brought him tidings that the Traytor Mordred was slaine;
then said he, the unresistable will and decree of heaven be done, for I am well conten-
ted, and willing to dye: So soon as the Rebels heard, and saw that their Captain
Mordred was dead, it is wonderfull to relate in what a disordered confusion they
ran

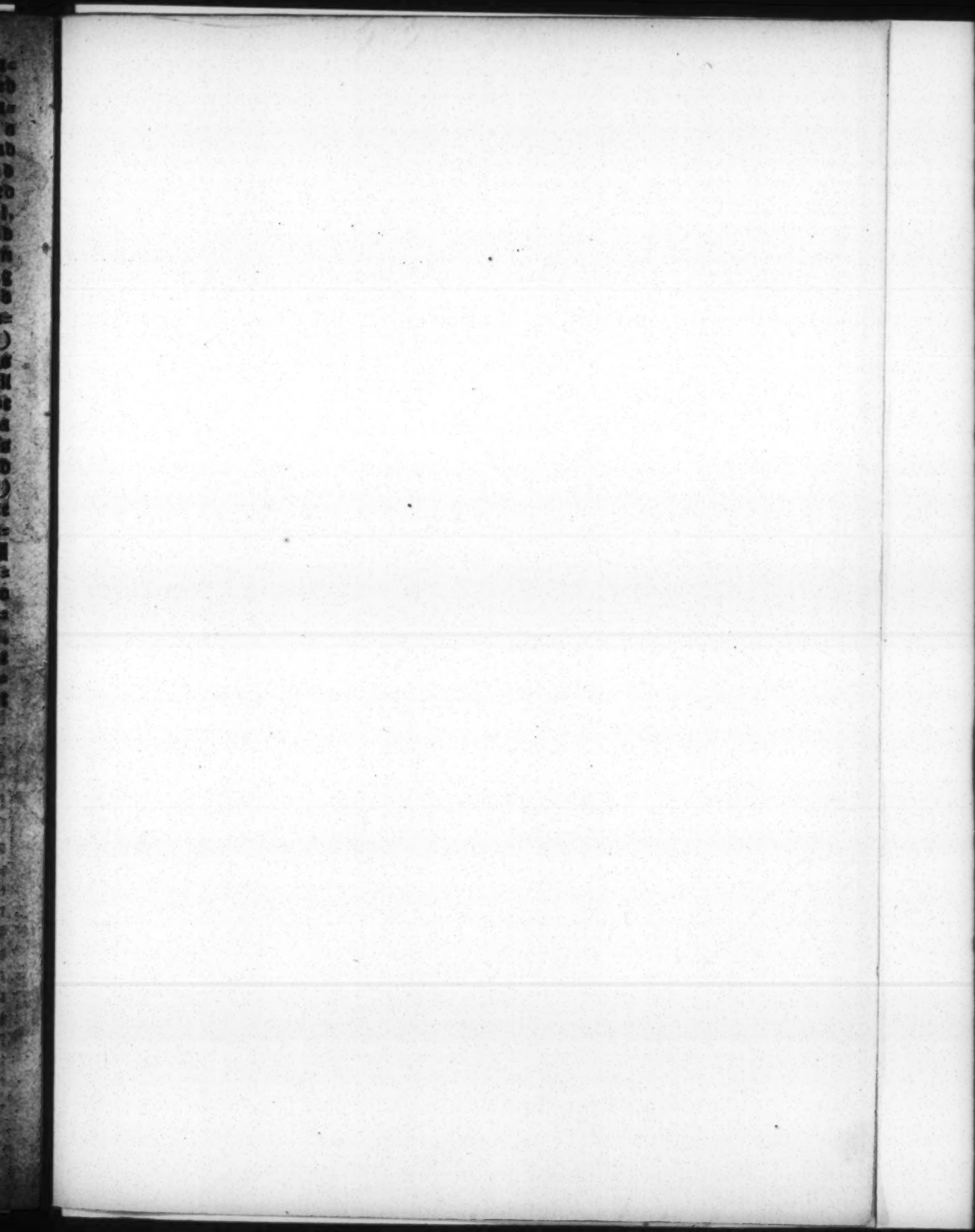
For some one way, and some another, they were sensible (by the testimony of conscience) that their offence perishing in rebellion (against so good a King) had brought them beyond hope of pardon: therefore they asked none in this distraction there was a greater number killed in the field, then in the battell scarce a man of them had escaped. At the sudden approach of good King Arthur's death had not prevented further parleys: there was slain in the battell twelve thousand, and in the flight fifteen thousand: Moreover, herefull death in his life time, procured him a generall hatred after death: he dyed suddenly without any care for his soul, thus chozow the heart with a javelin (in the hand of a Common souldier) and when he was dead none took care of his body: his own kindred (as he giveth in for a Captay) which were of the blood royal (and was he being nephew to King Arthur (as you have heard before) the gallant Sir Gawain Knight of the Round Table, who dyed bravely fighting for his King) in this battell, was his own brother: he was colengarman to that illustrious Cadur Duke of Cornwall (another) Knight of the Round Table, who also triumphed over death in his Sovereign's cause) whose Son (Constantine) succeeded King Arthur in the Kingdoms yet all this high birth and allent could not purchase a grave, unless some Country house buried him in his (Orchard of Gaden) for of his supporters (though to great a personage) no mention was ever made to his day: until enough of him (unless he had been better) now let us returne to K. Arthur, who lying upon his death-bed (at Glascenbury) where having (like a worthy Christian as he allwayes had lived) made an eternall peace between God and his soul: and also a lasting peace (for the future) to his Kingdoms, appointing for his successor (being without any issue) his Nephew Constantine the Son of Cadur Duke of Cornwall, as I told you lately. So this renowned Christian worthy (valiant King Arthur) having first humbled the Barons at home, and surer he foreign Crownes to the Monarchy of Britain: when he had thus victoriously reigned 26 years, he was dyed to death in the field, and his soule to his Redeemer in the year of Grace, 1441, and was buried at Glascenbury, they were in this 32. last modern age (I mean within living mens memory) there hath bene an old Epitaph, with some superlatives of him, found the Epitaph (so well as I can) I think it not impertinent to render in English.

King Arthur Epitaph

Here lyes great Arthur Britains King,
Mongst Christian worthies his name
His fame throughout the world doth ring,
None did such doo they deeds as he,
Deare all unto this passe doth bring,
He can subdue the greatest King.

FINIS.

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can some one say, and some another, they were sensible (by the testimony of conscience) that their offence perishing in rebellion (against so rare a King) had brought them beyond hope of pardon, therefore they asked none in this distress. there was a greater number killed in the field then in the battell scarce a man of them had escaped, if the sudden approach of good King Arthurs death had not prevented further pursuit; there was slain in the battell twelve thousand, and in the flight fifteen thousand; Mordred's hatefull deeds in his life time, procured him a generall hatred after death: he dyed suddenly without any care for his soul, thus chorow the heart with a Iavelin (in the hand of a Common souldier) and when he was dead none took care of his Body; his own kindred (a Sir guard: in for a Claytor) which were of the blood royal (and was he being nephew to King Arthur (as you have heard before) the gallant Sir Gawin Knight of the Round Table, who dyed bravely fighting for his King) in this battell, was his own brother, he was colen garman: to that illustrious Cedor Duke of Cornwall (another) Knight of the Round Table, who also triumphed over death in his Sovereignes cause) whose Son (Constantine) succeeded King Arthur in the Kingdoms yet all this high birth and allent could not purchase a grave, unless some Country hynde buried him in his (Orchard or Garden) for of his sepulcher (though to great a personage) no mention was ever made to this day: Well enough of him (unless he had been better) now let us returne to King Arthur, who lying upon his death-bed (at Glalensbury) where having (like a worthy Christian as he always had lived) made an eternall peace between God and his soul: and also a like lasting peace (for the future) to his Kingdoms, appointing for his successor (being without any issue) his Nephew Constantine the Son of Cedor Duke of Cornwall, as I told you lately. So this renowned Christian worthy (valiant King Arthur) having first vanquished the Saxons at home, and subdued the foreign Nations to the Monarchy of Brittain: when he had thus victoriously reigned 26 years, being dyed to death in his interest, and his soule to his Redeemer in the year of Grace, 1493, and was buried at Glalensbury, they where in this present modern age (I meane within living mens memory) there hath been an old Epitaph, with some other memorials of him, found the Epitaph (so well as I can) I think it not impertinent to render in English.

King Arthurs Epitaph.

Here lyes great Arthur Britains King,
Mongst Christian worthies best of King,
His fame throughout the world hath rung,
None did such doughty deeds as he,
Deare all unto this passe doth bring,
He can subdue the greatest King.

FINIS.

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